

Message Text

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SUBJ: DELFANTE INTERVIEW WITH EL PAIS ON MEETING
WITH PRESIDENT CARTER

REF: A) MONTEVIDEO 4432 B) MONTEVIDEO 4433

AS REPORTED PARA 1 REFTEL B, UNDER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DR. ENRIQUE DELFANTE GAVE AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO PRO-
GOVERNMENT DAILY EL PAIS SEPTEMBER 15. FULL TEXT OF
FRONT-PAGED INTERVIEW AS FOLLOWS:

QTE. IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH EL PAIS, UNDER
SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DR. ENRIQUE DELFANTE, COMMENTED
ON THE CONVERSATION THAT PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRESIDENT
MENDEZ HELD ON HUMAN RIGHTS. HE REFERRED TO THE TONE OF
THIS PRESIDENTIAL INTERVIEW AND TALKED CONCRETELY ABOUT
PROSPECTS FOR EXPORTATION OF LEATHER GOODS TO THE NORTH
AMERICAN MARKET AFTER HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. EL PAIS THUS
OBTAINED ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS THAT, DUE TO REALISTIC
PROGRAMMING CONSIDERATIONS, IT WAS UNABLE TO ASK PRESIDENT
MENDEZ DURING HIS RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE.

"THE FACT THAT, FOR LOGICAL REASONS, EACH REPORTER COULD
ONLY ASK ONE QUESTION IN THE PRESS INTERVIEW GIVEN BY THE
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PRESIDENT, DR. APARICIO MENDEZ, ON HIS RETURN FROM THE
UNITED STATES, WAS WHY MANY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS COULD NOT
BE ANSWERED. TRYING TO OBTAIN AN OFFICIAL ANSWER TO THOSE
QUESTIONS, EL PAIS OBTAINED AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH
UNDERSECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DR. ENRIQUE DELFANTE,
WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED PRESIDENT MENDEZ ON HIS VISIT TO THE
UNITED STATES AND WAS ONE OF THE OFFICIAL DELEGATES TO THIS

VERY IMPORTANT EVENT.

"EL PAIS: WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, IF POSSIBLE, IF PRESIDENT CARTER EXPRESSED HIS PREOCCUPATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN URUGUAY?

"DR. DELFANTE: "PRESIDENT CARTER SAID THAT THERE WAS GREAT CONCERN IN OUR (U.S.) NATION WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCUSATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, BUT HE ALSO ADDED THAT HE KNEW THAT SOME OF THEM WERE VERSIONS DESIGNED TO DISTORT THE TRUTH. HE (CARTER) ALSO SAID THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO URUGUAY AND TO OURSELVES (U.S.) THAT ALL THESE QUESTIONS BE CORRECTLY ANSWERED. PRESIDENT MENDEZ, IN ADDITION TO HIS LONG EXPLANATION ON THAT SUBJECT, ADDED THAT VERY SOON THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF THE OAS WOULD RECEIVE AN ANSWER FROM OUR GOVERNMENT ON THE REPORT OF THAT ORGANIZATION. "FOR MY PART, I CAN ASSURE YOU THIS ANSWER HAS ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED TO THAT COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON."

"EL PAIS: HOW WAS THE TONE OF THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN THE PRESIDENTS?

"DR. DELFANTE: "IT WAS A FRIENDLY TONE, OPEN AND VERY FRANK. IN HIS SHORT TALK IN SPANISH TO THE NEWSPAPERMEN PRESENT AS HE CAME OUT OF THE WHITE HOUSE, PRESIDENT CARTER SAID, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT HE HOPED RELATIONS WILL BE GOOD, VERY GOOD, OR BETTER IN THE MONTHS TO COME."
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"EL PAIS: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US CONCERNING THE PROSPECTS FOR LEATHER GOODS EXPORTS TO THE NORTH AMERICAN MARKET FOLLOWING THIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON?

"DR. DELFANTE: "THERE REMAINS OPEN POSSIBILITIES FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN THE JURIDICAL AND REGULATORY NORMS THAT REGULATE THE IMPORTATION OF THESE PRODUCTS INTO THE UNITED STATES MARKET. IN THIS REGARD, I HELD SEVERAL INTERVIEWS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS IN WASHINGTON, AND I BELIEVE THERE IS A GOOD DISPOSITION TO CONSIDER THIS ISSUE. THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT WILL SEND AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION COMPOSED OF EXPERTS OF PLANNING, ECONOMY, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO WILL REPRESENT URUGUAYAN INTERESTS IN THE MIXED MEETINGS WHICH WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON WITH THE TECHNICIANS OF THE PERTINENT U.S. GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

EXPORTATION PROSPECTS

"EL PAIS: WHEN WILL THESE MEETINGS TAKE PLACE?

"DR. DELFANTE: "THESE MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE VERY

SOON AS WAS AGREED IN THE MEETING HELD BETWEEN
PRESIDENTS MENDEZ AND CARTER LAST WEEK."

"EL PAIS: WHAT WAS PRESIDENT CARTER'S POSITION WITH
REGARD TO THIS MATTER?

"DR. DELFANTE: "AS HE (PRESIDENT CARTER) DECLARED PUBLICLY,
WE AGREED TO ESTABLISH THE KIND OF CONTACT THAT WILL
PERMIT AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE URUGUAYAN LEGISLATION
AND OUR (U.S.) SYSTEM AS AN IMPORTING COUNTRY, AND THE
CONDITIONS THAT MAY RESTRICT IMPORTATION, IT BEING DESIRABLE
THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS, DISCUSSION AND CONTACTS TAKE PLACE
VERY SHORTLY." UNQUOTE.

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